

Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /051 W
----- 048446

R 241210Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9433
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, JA
SUBJECT: LDP WINS UPPER HOUSE BY-ELECTION

SUMMARY: WITH WIN OF ITS CANDIDATE IN RURAL BY-ELECTION, LDP REGAINS SEVEN VOTE MAJORITY IN UPPER HOUSE. BY-ELECTION WILL BE SEEN BY SOME TO INDICATE LOCKHEED HAS LITTLE OR NO ADVERSE EFFECT IN TRADITIONALLY CONSERVATIVE RURAL DISTRICTS. END SUMMARY.

1. LDP CANDIDATE YUTAKA SASAKI WON MAY 23 UPPER HOUSE BY-ELECTION IN AKITA PREFECTURE TO FILL SEAT OF DECEASED LDP DIETMAN GORO YAMAZAKI, HANDILY DEFEATING JSP AND JCP OPPONENTS. AS A RESULT OF HIS WIN, LDP REGAINS ITS SEVEN SEAT UPPER HOUSE MAJORITY. NEW UPPER HOUSE ALIGNMENT IS: LDP, 129; JSP, 62; CGP, 24; JCP, 20; DSP, 10; NIIN CLUB, 5; AND INDEPENDENT (INCLUDING PRESIDENT) 2.

2. COMMENT: AKITA RACE, FIRST DIET BY-ELECTION SINCE LOCKHEED SCANDAL

BROKE, WAS CLOSELY WATCHED FOR LOCKHEED'S EFFECT ON LDP CANDIDATE IN TRADITIONAL, RURAL, NORMALLY CONSERVATIVE DISTRICT. LESSON APPEARS TO BE THAT IF LDP CANDIDATE TALKS HARD OF NEED FOR THOROUGH LOCKHEED PROBE AND CLEANER POLITICS--AS DID SASAKI--LOCKHEED HAS LITTLE OR NO ADVERSE EFFECT. WHILE CONSERVATIVE WIN REDOUNGS

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SOMEWHAT TO MIKI'S CREDIT--HE CAMPAIGNED THERE--HIS CHALLENGERS CAN

ALSO ARGUE LOCKHEED'S DWINDLING ELECTORAL IMPORTANCE IN THE
COUNTRYSIDE.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, PARTY STRENGTH, BYELECTION, UPPER HOUSE
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Disposition Authority: ellisooob
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Subject: LDP WINS UPPER HOUSE BY-ELECTION SUMMARY: WITH WIN OF ITS CANDIDATE IN RURAL BY-ELECTION, LDP REGAINS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, JA, LDP
To: STATE
Type: TE
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